

CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

GILES S. PORTER, M.D., Director

Weekly Bulletin



STATE BOARD OF PUBLIC HEALTH

GEORGE E. EBRIGHT, M.D., President

FRED F. GUNDRUM, M.D., Vice President

A. J. SCOTT, Jr., M.D. JOHN H. GRAVES, M.D. WM. R. P. CLARK, M.D.

ROBERT A. PEERS, M.D.

GILES S. PORTER, M.D.

Entered as second-class matter February 21, 1922, at the post office at Sacramento, California, under the Act of August 24, 1912. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917.

Vol. X, No. 41

November 14, 1931

GUY P. JONES
EDITOR

Typhoid Mortality Rates, By States

California has not the lowest typhoid mortality rate of any state in the Union, but its rate is very low and compares favorably with rates achieved by other states. States which had lower typhoid mortality rates than California in 1930 are: Connecticut, Iowa, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont and Wisconsin. The California typhoid mortality rate, it will be noted, is lower than similar rates for other western states. Considering the fact that surface streams constitute the main source of water supplies in California, the state's typhoid rate of 1.7 per 100,000 population is commendable. Among the states which had rates less than one per 100,000 last year are: Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont and Wisconsin. It is probable that New Hampshire comes within this classification, but the 1930 typhoid rate for that state is not yet available. The highest typhoid rates are those for the southern states. Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee and West Virginia all had high typhoid mortality rates in 1930. The following table gives the death rates per 100,000 population from typhoid fever in the registration states for 1930:

Typhoid Fever Death Rates, by States, 1930

Alabama	7.8
Arizona	9.1
Arkansas	19.5
California	1.7
Colorado	(a)
Connecticut	0.9

Delaware	7.1
District of Columbia	3.3
Florida	4.9
Georgia	17.2
Idaho	3.8
Illinois	2.0
Indiana	3.3
Iowa	1.6
Kansas	3.0
Kentucky	15.9
Louisiana	11.8
Maine	3.8
Maryland	6.2
Massachusetts	0.9
Michigan	1.8
Minnesota	1.0
Mississippi	11.8
Missouri	7.2
Montana	3.0
Nebraska	1.6
Nevada	2.2
New Hampshire	(a)
New Jersey	1.1
New Mexico	(a)
New York	1.2
North Carolina	4.4
North Dakota	2.3
Ohio	3.3
Oklahoma	12.8
Oregon	1.9
Pennsylvania	2.6
Rhode Island	1.6
South Carolina	17.2
South Dakota	2.9
Tennessee	12.4
Utah	(a)
Vermont	0.8
Virginia	6.4
Washington	2.0
West Virginia	12.1
Wisconsin	0.9
Wyoming	2.7

(a) Rate not available.

CONTROL OF DIPHTHERIA

Dr. W. T. Harrison of the National Institute of Health, at the meeting of the American Public Health Association in Montreal said: "A death from diphtheria must be considered as a result of ignorance or neglect." This statement was made in the symposium on "Toxoid Immunization." Dr. Harrison stated further that the prevention of diphtheria by active immunization is the greatest thing in public health since Jenner's development of vaccination against smallpox. Dr. Harrison gave due credit to Dr. William H. Park of the New York City Health Board for the development of immunization against diphtheria, and to Professor G. Ramon of the Pasteur Institute in Paris for the introduction of toxoid. While Dr. Harrison recognized the value of toxin antitoxin, he was more enthusiastic over toxoid, which he stated is entirely nonpoisonous and absolutely harmless. No case of injury has been known to follow its use, nor is there any danger of serum sickness as it contains no horse or other serum. It is given in courses of two or three treatments. After the first course, nine-tenths of the children become immune. It is stated, further, that toxoid is 20 to 30 per cent more efficient, even when only two doses are given, than is toxin antitoxin.

Dr. Park and his associate, Dr. May C. Schroeder, report that toxoid plus alum gives the best results. They stated further that toxoid should be used for children of preschool age, as in a few older children and adults, toxoid causes a marked local reaction.

LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS ISSUE PUBLICATIONS

The health departments of the cities of Pasadena and of Oakland have started the publication of monthly bulletins. Both of these publications are mimeographed and are distributed to interest individuals in the respective cities of publication. Dr. A. H. Hieronymus is the City Health Officer of Oakland and Dr. J. D. Dunshee City Health Officer of Pasadena. A considerable number of both city and county health departments are now issuing publications at regular intervals.

MUSSEL QUARANTINE LIFTED

The quarantine on mussels was lifted October 15th and at the present time no restrictions are placed upon the sale or offering for sale of mussels or clams from any district of California. It will be necessary to impose restrictions upon these crustaceans again in the spring, when the period of toxicity begins again.

TRICHINOSIS FROM BEAR MEAT

Trichinosis is generally contracted through the consumption of infected raw pork meat. Cases of trichinosis from use of bear meat are not common. A small group of cases contracted from such meat was reported in California last year, and during the present month a larger group of cases due to this source has been reported.

On September 16th a Vallejo youth killed a bear in Trinity County. A number of people ate steaks, roast and liver from the bear and the remainder was jerked and smoked. A San Francisco man took a portion of the jerked meat home with him and the remainder was brought to Vallejo. This meat was distributed among families in Vallejo, San Francisco and Oakdale. As a result of eating this jerked bear meat sixteen cases of trichinosis have been reported. The youth who shot the bear died October 13th. Cases from this source occurred in Vallejo, San Francisco and Oakdale. Some of the cases are extremely severe and it is possible that more fatalities will result. A sample of the meat sent to the state laboratory was found positive for *Trichinella spiralis*. As a matter of safety it would appear that all bear meat should be thoroughly cooked before eating.

MISS HAY GOES TO VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

Ruth W. Hay, Public Health Nurse, who has been on the staff of the Bureau of Child Hygiene for many years has resigned her position in order to become Assistant Professor of Public Health Nursing in Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee. Public health nurses of the San Francisco Bay district attended a testimonial dinner to Miss Hay at the Woman's City Club, San Francisco, on October 22d. The following nurses attended: Misses Hay, Cole, Blachmire, Stockton, Orcutt, Clary, Deutsch, Jamme, Rainbow, Baldwin, Urch, Bussell, Landis, Bagley, Trewick, Cummings, Taylor, Bryan and Davis.

TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR CORRECTED

In a recent issue of this publication the name of Dr. Wm. F. Snow, General Director of the American Social Hygiene Association, New York City, was incorrectly quoted. Dr. Snow was Secretary of the California State Board of Health from 1909 to 1913, since which time he has been the executive officer of the American Social Hygiene Association. He is one of the outstanding figures in public health in the United States and the unfortunate error in the misspelling of his name is regretted.

PASADENA HEALTH DEPARTMENT ISSUES ANNUAL REPORT

The report of the Pasadena City Health Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931, has been received. The City Health Officer of Pasadena, Dr. J. D. Dunshee, has accomplished a large amount of work in his city and the report of the activities of his department is a most commendable publication. The report consists of eighty-five mimeographed pages, bound in an attractive heavy cover. Nearly all standard activities in public health are represented in the report. The statistical reports are extended and represent careful work. A number of graphic charts are presented which add greatly to the interest of the publication.

Pasadena was one of the first cities to require the physical examination of all food handlers and during the past year no less than 3762 such examinations were given. Those engaged in the production of raw milk must have such an examination twice yearly. Considerable new work has been started in Pasadena in the control of both cancer and heart disease. Mental hygiene is also receiving attention. The report is complete and well arranged. It reflects great credit to Dr. Dunshee and to the members of his staff.

PROPER FEEDING OF THE UNEMPLOYED

For the convenience of communities which may desire instructions relative to proper feeding of the unemployed the State Department of Public Health has prepared a guide for such emergency feeding. This has been prepared by Miss Jane Sedgwick, Nutrition Adviser in the Bureau of Tuberculosis. Recipes, together with cost figures upon the basis of one hundred servings, are given. These recipes are for cornmeal mush, oatmeal mush, baked beans, Mexican chili or chili beans, chili con carne, braised beef, rice, potatoes, macaroni with tomato sauce, meat loaf, hamburger loaf and Irish stew.

The proper feeding of the unemployed is decidedly in the interest of public health. Resistance against disease can not be maintained except through the proper feeding of the individual. Copies of the publication referred to may be obtained by making application to the State Department of Public Health at Sacramento.

"A plant born a weed does not have to remain a weed."—*Burbank*.

The man of science has learned to believe in justification, not by faith, but by verification.—*Huxley*.

LIST OF DISEASES REPORTABLE BY LAW

ANTHRAX	OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM
BERI-BERI	PARATYPHOID FEVER
BOTULISM	PELLAGRA
CHICKENPOX	PLAGUE
CHOLERA, ASIATIC	PNEUMONIA (Lobar)
COCCIDIOIDAL GRANULOMA	POLIOMYELITIS
DENGUE	RABIES (Animal)
DIPHTHERIA	RABIES (Human)
DYSENTERY (Amoebic)	RELAPSING FEVER
DYSENTERY (Bacillary)	ROCKY MOUNTAIN
ENCEPHALITIS (Epidemic)	SPOTTED (or Tick) FEVER
ERYSIPELAS	SCARLET FEVER
FLUKES	SEPTIC SORE THROAT
FOOD POISONING	SMALLPOX
GERMAN MEASLES	SYPHILIS*
GLANDERS	TETANUS
GONOCOCCUS INFECTION*	TRACHOMA
HOOKWORM	TRICHINOSIS
INFLUENZA	TUBERCULOSIS
JAUNDICE (Infectious)	TULAREMIA
LEPROSY	TYPHOID FEVER
MALARIA	TYPHUS FEVER
MEASLES	UNDULANT (Malta) FEVER
MENINGITIS (Meningococcic)	WHOOPING COUGH
MENINGITIS (Cerebrospinal)	YELLOW FEVER
MUMPS	

*Reported by office number. Name and address not required.

QUARANTINABLE DISEASES

CEREBROSPINAL MENINGITIS (Epidemic)	POLIOMYELITIS
CHOLERA, ASIATIC	SCARLET FEVER
DIPHTHERIA	SMALLPOX
ENCEPHALITIS (Epidemic)	TYPHOID FEVER
LEPROSY	TYPHUS FEVER
PLAGUE	YELLOW FEVER

"The recent investigations regarding the toxicity of codliver oil and its effect on heart muscle tone, by Aagard and Svendstrom, have appeared (in translation) in England. These studies, which were done in great detail on a number of young animals of varying types, would strongly indicate that codliver oil can not be given indiscriminately and in large dosage without very considerable danger; and that, in every instance, its administration should be guided by a physician rather than by the family ideas on the subject. Emulsions appear to be rather more toxic than the plain oil; while irradiated oil or oil given in conjunction with sun baths have proven much less toxic to all species of young animals on which the experiments were made."—*Santa Clara County Health Department Bulletin*.

There is no health; physicians say that we, at best, enjoy but neutrality.—*Donne*.

MORBIDITY*

Diphtheria.

106 cases of diphtheria have been reported, as follows: Humboldt County 1, Eureka 4, Brawley 3, Inyo County 1, Kings County 1, Los Angeles County 6, Compton 1, El Monte 1, Glendale 2, Inglewood 2, Long Beach 7, Los Angeles 44, Pasadena 1, San Fernando 1, Torrance 1, Signal Hill 1, Maywood 1, Bell 1, Gardena 1, Orange County 2, Orange 1, Riverside County 3,

* From reports received on November 9th and 10th for week ending November 7th.

Riverside 2, Sacramento 2, San Bernardino County 2, Ontario 2, San Bernardino 1, San Francisco 1, Stockton 2, Santa Barbara 2, San Jose 2, Santa Clara 1, Benicia 1, Sonoma County 1, Modesto 1.

Scarlet Fever.

123 cases of scarlet fever have been reported, as follows: Oakland 7, Butte County 1, Colusa 5, Martinez 1, Fresno 3, Willows 1, Kern County 2, Kings County 3, Hanford 1, Los Angeles County 5, Alhambra 1, Avalon 4, Compton 1, Culver City 1, Glendale 1, Huntington Park 1, Long Beach 4, Los Angeles 47, Fort Bragg 1, Anaheim 1, Huntington Beach 1, San Diego County 2, San Diego 1, San Francisco 5, Lompoc 1, Santa Barbara 2, Santa Maria 1, San Jose 2, Watsonville 3, Stanislaus County 1, Modesto 2, Yuba City 2, Tulare County 5, Visalia 3, Woodland 1.

Measles.

168 cases of measles have been reported, as follows: Humboldt County 27, Eureka 85, Kern County 1, Los Angeles County 1, Long Beach 1, Los Angeles 5, Whittier 1, Signal Hill 1, Merced County 2, Monterey 1, Pacific Grove 14, La Habra 1, Sacramento 17, San Francisco 4, Paso Robles 1, Redwood City 1, Santa Barbara 1, Santa Clara County 1, Los Gatos 3.

Smallpox.

7 cases of smallpox have been reported, as follows: Kern County 1, Kings County 1, Hanford 1, Plumas County 1, San Francisco 2, Red Bluff 1.

Typhoid Fever.

5 cases of typhoid fever have been reported, as follows: Los Angeles County 1, Merced County 1, Orange County 3.

Whooping Cough.

88 cases of whooping cough have been reported, as follows: Alameda 1, Berkeley 2, Oakland 7, Martinez 2, Humboldt County 2, Eureka 3, Los Angeles County 4, Arcadia 1, Beverly Hills 4, Glendale 1, Inglewood 1, Long Beach 1, Los Angeles 7, Sierra Madre 2, Hawthorne 1, Monterey 1, Orange County 2, Riverside 1, San Diego 2, San Francisco 7, San Joaquin County 19, Stockton 10, San Luis Obispo 2, San Jose 1, Ventura County 4.

Meningitis (Epidemic).

2 cases of epidemic meningitis have been reported, as follows: Fresno 1, San Jose 1.

Leprosy.

One case of leprosy from the state of Idaho has been reported from Los Angeles.

Poliomyelitis.

3 cases of poliomyelitis have been reported, as follows: Alameda 1, Albany 1, San Francisco 1.

Encephalitis (Epidemic).

2 cases of epidemic encephalitis have been reported, as follows: Inyo County 1, San Joaquin County 1.

Food Poisoning.

Los Angeles reported 2 cases of food poisoning.

Undulant Fever.

San Jose reported one case of undulant fever.

Septic Sore Throat.

San Bernardino County reported one case of septic sore throat.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTS

Disease	1931				1930			
	Week ending			Reports for week ending Nov. 7 received by Nov. 10	Week ending			Reports for week ending Nov. 8 received by Nov. 12
	Oct. 17	Oct. 24	Oct. 31		Oct. 18	Oct. 25	Nov. 1	
Actinomycosis	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Chickenpox	84	151	182	213	143	181	213	192
Coccidioidal Granuloma	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Diphtheria	76	90	112	106	58	74	49	85
Dysentery (Amoebic)	14	6	4	4	0	1	1	1
Dysentery (Bacillary)	7	7	6	3	10	1	6	2
Encephalitis (Epidemic)	2	0	1	2	0	1	5	0
Erysipelas	7	18	14	11	7	9	10	11
Food Poisoning	10	3	0	2	5	2	1	0
German Measles	6	7	4	6	9	5	8	11
Gonococcus Infection	233	155	352	148	150	153	156	155
Hookworm	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Influenza	68	37	44	41	20	24	30	29
Leprosy	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Malaria	3	4	3	1	1	0	2	0
Measles	79	159	112	168	125	92	132	109
Meningitis (Epidemic)	6	2	7	2	2	8	1	3
Mumps	86	90	114	104	111	137	140	140
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Paratyphoid Fever	0	4	5	3	0	0	1	1
Pellagra	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	1
Pneumonia (Lobar)	27	35	44	38	42	55	80	47
Poliomyelitis	8	6	4	3	85	70	60	49
Rabies (Animal)	12	5	7	9	23	16	19	14
Scarlet Fever	107	132	151	123	65	67	75	107
Septic Sore Throat	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
Smallpox	3	7	8	7	6	11	34	9
Syphilis	222	176	222	173	167	132	120	179
Tetanus	0	1	1	1	2	1	2	1
Trachoma	74	14	10	5	6	7	4	4
Trichinosis	12	0	6	0	0	2	1	1
Tuberculosis	173	189	182	137	271	196	228	173
Tularemia	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Typhoid Fever	8	7	23	5	17	14	22	18
Undulant Fever	3	1	5	1	1	0	5	3
Whooping Cough	101	102	67	88	85	72	90	118
Totals	1,432	1,409	1,691	1,407	1,412	1,336	1,496	1,466



Chickenpox is moving on an ascending scale.



Scarlet fever is quite prevalent.



Diphtheria is more prevalent than at the same season of last year.



Influenza shows no signs, as yet, that may be considered unusual.



Health conditions, in general, are good.

